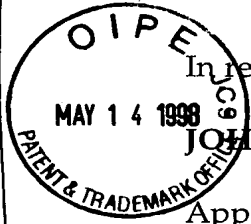


DV
5-27
#19/F

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re PATENT APPLICATION of

JOHNSON, Lanny L.

Appln. No. 08/840,548

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: April 3, 1997

Examiner: G. Tucker

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING
A CENTERED BORE FOR THE FEMORAL...

* * * * *

May 14, 1998

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RECEIVED
MAY 20 1998
GROUP 3200

Prior to further examination, please enter the following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS:

10. (Five times amended) An instrument for forming a centered bore in
a femur in preparation for implantation of a femoral prosthesis, wherein the
femur includes an intramedullary canal defined by an interior wall of cortical
bone, the instrument comprising:

a handle joined to a proximal end of an elongated rod sized to be
received within said canal; and

fins [non-displaceably] non-retractably disposed in a fixed position at a
distal end of the rod, and projecting outwardly in opposing directions from
the rod in a single planar relationship, for engaging the interior wall of the